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# ***Daily Report***

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# **Sub-Saharan Africa**

**FBIS-AFR-89-239  
Thursday  
14 December 1989**

# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-89-239

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14 December 1989

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### PANA Press Review on PTA, Malta Summits

AB0912090889 Dakar PANA in English 0825 GMT  
9 Dec 89

[From the "Weekly Press Review"]

[Text] Dakar, 9 Dec (APS-ALG/KNA/SAP/PANA)—Although the PTA [Preferential Trade Area] summit in Nairobi ended on a good note, Kenya's "STANDARD" newspaper was somewhat circumspect about one of the summit's recommendations: Namely the creation of an African monetary union.

"Political realities will tend to militate against the prospect of replacing national currencies with a multinational currency, regardless of the economic gains inherent in the transformation" it said. PTA members, it went on, should concern themselves with the more practical needs of removing obstacles to cross-border trade, eliminating customs tariffs and other non-tariff barriers. "Having done that, the next stage should be concerted attempts to harmonise fiscal matters so that some uniformity is achieved in taxation policies," it said.

The Senegalese daily newspaper "LE SOLEIL" was somewhat miffed at what it saw as Africa's muted reaction to the mercenary drama on the island nation of the Comoros. "If Africa had reasons not to speak out loudly about its deepest thoughts, now is its chance to speak on the mercenaries" without fear of interfering in the internal affairs of an African country.

However, the OAU and Libya's leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi have condemned the mercenary activities of Bob Denard in the Comoros. But the "SOLEIL" said that Denard's departure is not the only issue. The danger, it said, lies with South Africa which "will take the initiative in finding a successor" to Denard.

On the mainland and to the north-west of the Comoros, the Algerian newspaper "EL MOUDJAHID" commented on the congress of the ruling "Front for National Liberation" (FLN) of Algeria. "The FLN should demonstrate its sense of democracy by taking into account the opinions of the majority and minority in its decision making process," it said, adding "there should be lucidity in all its acts."

The Bush-Gorbachev summit on the Soviet cruise liner Maxim Gorkiy off Malta Sunday, caught the attention of the "SEYCHELLES NATION" newspaper. It commented on the pledge by both leaders to work for a strategic arms reduction treaty, by the time they meet again in mid-1990. As the differences between East and West shrink ushering in a period of peace for Europe and North America, it said, "it is hoped that the developing nations will neither be forgotten nor taken for granted." It went on: "At a time when the superpowers are withdrawing much of their arsenal from Europe and considering slashing their conventional forces, the dismantling of their military bases elsewhere should be given the urgent consideration it deserves." The daily expressed its dread of foreign military bases saying that "the potential

for disaster is much too grave for us to be indifferent to the situation." The accidental dropping of a bomb on a U.S. ship in Diego Garcia Island in November, it said, is an example which sent jitters throughout the region.

### SADCC Transportation Seminar Opens in Maputo

MB1112120089 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Dec 89

[Text] A seminar on financial strategy for SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] transportation corridors began in Maputo today.

Organized by the World Bank, the seminar comes in the wake of plans to achieve financial self-sufficiency in transportation operations and a minimum reduction in transportation costs in the region.

Aided by the international community, SADCC has, in past years, tried to restore its regional transportation network to make it viable and competitive.

SADCC member countries are attending the 4-day seminar.

### Regional Corridors Discussed

MB1212143089 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] An SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] seminar began in Maputo yesterday to discuss problems affecting the main corridors in the region. Five draft reports and a study on the five corridors, which was carried out over the past 6 months, were presented yesterday.

Should the corridors become fully operational, one of SADCC's major goals—that is, the reduction of its dependence on South Africa in the field of transportation—would be achieved. The nine SADCC member states are determined to rehabilitate the corridors.

Because of the malfunction of these routes or the limited efficacy of others, most of the imports and exports of SADCC states without direct access to the sea currently pass through South African ports. In fact, these ports are located in remote areas, which makes them more expensive. This further aggravates the weak economies of SADCC member states.

In an interview, Douglas Graham, a World Bank financial analyst attending the event, said that the financial situation of the five main corridors is not yet healthy. He added that in practice there are two corridors in operation, namely the Beira and Tazara [Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority] corridors.

For Mozambique, the efficient operation of the Limpopo, Beira, and Nacala corridors will mean an increase in foreign exchange revenue through the rendering of services to landlocked countries. According to Graham, current studies indicate that some \$5 billion is required to rehabilitate the five main SADCC corridors. This is a frighteningly large sum, but SADCC member states are



strongly committed to achieving the organization's goals, namely the reduction of their dependence on South Africa, despite shortcomings such as Pretoria's destabilization of the region.

In Mozambique, armed bandits operating on Pretoria's orders from 1981 centered their activities on the country's corridors. Likewise, in Angola the Lobito corridor, which is another corridor vitally important to SADCC, has been out of operation as a result of activities carried out by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

### 25th UDEAC Summit Preparations, Opening Reported

#### Steering Committee Meets

AB0712112489 Bangui Domestic Service in French  
1800 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Excerpt] The 50th session of the steering committee of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] opened this morning at UDEAC headquarters in Bangui. The opening ceremony was under the chairmanship of Timothee Marboua, Central African Republic [CAR] minister of commerce, industry, and small- and medium-scale enterprises. Also present at the ceremony were his counterparts from the UDEAC member countries.

In all, 31 items on the agenda were examined by the experts and submitted to the ministers for approval. In the area of customs legislation for example the meeting decided the stabilization of the fiscal and customs regulations [words indistinct] the community's policy in the area of orientation, as well as advance accounting; the eventual introduction of a value-added tax [words indistinct]; the establishment of a special intervention fund of the verifications and accounting teams between the member states; a subregional system of satellite communications; and industrialization of telecommunications within member states. [passage omitted]

#### Chadian Foreign Minister Arrives

AB1012090989 Bangui Domestic Service in French  
1800 GMT 9 Dec 89

[Excerpts] As previously announced, the Chadian delegation arrived in Bangui early this evening to attend the 25th summit of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC]. It was led by Foreign Minister Acheikh Ibn Oumar, who will personally represent the Chadian head of state, El Hadj Hissein Habre, to the 25th UDEAC summit. [passage omitted] The minister was interviewed by Mawa Titama at the Bangui-Mpoko Airport VIP lounge.

[Begin recording] [Titama] You have been sent here by President Hissein Habre to represent him at the 25th UDEAC summit, which will open in Bangui in a few days. We presume that you are also bringing a message from the head of state to this summit?

[Acheikh] First, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and fraternity to the CAR authorities, its Government, people and President Andre Kolingba for the exceptionally warm and fraternal welcome we received. For any native from Central Africa, setting foot in Barthélemy Bocanda's country is a sort of historic pilgrimage. We really feel at home here. Unfortunately, President Hissein Habre could not be here with his Central African brothers on this major occasion, the 25th anniversary celebration of UDEAC, our common organization. He could not make it simply because for the first time in 20 years and after so many splits, elections and a referendum on the Constitution will be held in our country. After all these years of war and trouble, this occasion prevented our head of state from coming here. Thus, he has sent me to deliver a written message to his brother and friend, General Kolingba, first to excuse himself for not being able to attend this summit and also to exchange views on regional issues and bilateral cooperation.

[Titama] Your excellency, UDEAC was 25 years old yesterday and Chad is here to attend the 25th summit of the organization. What importance does the Republic of Chad attribute to its membership in UDEAC.

[Acheikh] It is obvious that global trends are now heading toward regional or continental groupings, whether in Asia, America, Europe, or the Arab world. So, these trends indicate the foresight of the UDEAC founding fathers, who soon after their countries were granted independence instinctively felt the need to form a common organization. They felt that it would be difficult for them to enter the international economic competition—it is a competition, indeed!—if they were not united and strong. Unfortunately, the difficulties confronted by our countries, for internal and external reasons, plus the increasingly unequal relations between our countries and those of the North, and to make things more difficult, the sometimes unhuman policies of the Bretton-Woods institutions, the World Bank and the IMF, have prevented us from achieving the hopes raised by UDEAC's creation in economic and financial terms. I think that we must face the challenge and we are bringing our determination here to combine it with that of our brotherly countries so as to face this challenge and meet the expectations of our peoples.

[Titama] Thank you, Your Excellency. I wish you a nice stay in Bangui.

[Acheikh] Thank you. [end recording]

#### CAR's Kolingba Opens Summit

AB1312124189 Libreville Africa No 1 in French  
1230 GMT 12 Dec 89

[Text] We are coming back to the major news of the day in Central Africa, the opening of the 25th Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC] summit in Bangui, with this latest report by Flavienne Issembe in Bangui:

[Begin Issembe recording] The Central African people gathered in the city streets, while musical and entertainment groups gave the same warm welcome they gave yesterday to the president and ministers attending the 25th UDEAC summit: Andre Kolingba of Central African Republic [CAR], Omar Bongo of Gabon, Denis Sassou-Nguesso of Congo, Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea, the minister of foreign affairs of Chad, and the minister of commerce of Cameroon representing President Hissein Habre and Paul Biya, respectively.

It was at exactly 1010 when the summit was opened by the CAR president, Andre Kolingba. To his right were Presidents Bongo, Mbasogo, the Chadian minister of foreign affairs, Acheikh Ibn Oumar, and to his left, the Congolese head of state, Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who will be his successor at the head of the UDEAC, and the Cameroonian minister of commerce, Joseph Tsanga Abanda.

But what is the essence of the meeting? The 25th summit opened with a report reviewing the 25 years of the UDEAC. The CAR president presented a report that showed both achievements and setbacks. Even if much has been achieved within a quarter of a century, much still remains to be done. The joint industrialization scheme is yet to be put into effect. The same is true of the transport and communications sectors as well as training and employment.

In addition, according to Andre Kolingba, the important thing is to be spurred on by a new community spirit devoid of selfish aims. Andre Kolingba, while denouncing the fall in world market prices of raw materials, the worsening terms of trade, and the debt burden, called for the strengthening of North-South dialogue, for solidarity in the face of hindrances to the development process, and mobilization in the face of the great challenge of 1993, the United Europe plan, which consists of launching an offensive and emerging as a veritable economic force. This is the main gist of the opening of the 25th summit of UDEAC here in Bangui. The heads of state are meeting this afternoon behind closed doors at the Conference Center of the CAR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Before then, they will visit the UDEAC trade fair at Kolongo, a working class district of Bangui. [end recording]

#### **OAU Economic Community Planned for 1990**

EA0712204189 Dakar PANA in English 1721 GMT  
7 Dec 89

[Text] Addis Ababa 7 Dec (PANA)—The draft treaty on the creation of the African Economic Community will be submitted to African heads of state and government for signature during the next summit of the OAU scheduled for July 1990.

This was decided Thursday [7 December] in Addis Ababa by the 18th ministerial session of the permanent steering committee of the organization. The ministers, who adopted articles of the draft treaty prepared by experts, also decided on the integration of the organs of

the proposed community within the OAU. Several participants expressed the need to take into account the repercussions of this integration with regard to manpower and finance.

#### **PANA Views African News Agency Development**

AB0912124989 Dakar PANA in English 0903 GMT  
9 Dec 89

[WANAD: The cornerstone for African news agencies—PANA headline; by Lucien Minko]

[Text] Dakar, 9 Dec (PANA)—The African national news agencies, more than ever before, at this period when countries are implementing structural adjustment policies, require particular support to be able to play their full role as "catalysts" for national news.

Already on the sideline for budgetary allocations of the governments for the information and communication sector news agencies are seeing their financial situation worsening because of the economic crisis overwhelming the continent. The states are constrained, under the directions of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to take drastic measures to reduce their financial commitments.

Since then, the West and Central African News Agencies Development (WANAD) Project, established in 1984 by UNESCO for the development of the news agencies in the regions, has risen to the occasion seriously. It has embarked on a programme of providing the national information organs with necessary equipment to disseminate information both within and outside the countries.

Since its inception, the project has benefitted from a total budget of eight million US dollars from the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany). This fund has been allocated to financing essentially, in three phases, the pressing needs of training of personnel for the national news agencies (journalists, documentalists, administrators).

The project also prepares journalists for specialisation in various areas such as rural development, international relations, health, economy, environment as well as the acquisition of equipment for modernisation and financing their telecommunications network.

The activities of WANAD cover 13 countries, namely, Burkina Faso, Benin, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire [Ivory Coast], the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo. Some 250 journalists have been trained in these countries.

Five years after the establishment of WANAD, its coordinator, Babacar Fall of Senegal, believes the results obtained are satisfactory.

"The problems confronting the agencies have changed," Fall said, adding that while developing, the agencies are conscious of their inadequacy when compared to the other media and are aspiring to make up the lapses.

From 1990, WANAD, will extend its activities in central Africa setting up the Central African News Agencies development (CANAD) programme which will cover Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Burundi, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad and Zaire. A budget of one million US dollars has been earmarked for the implementation of the first phase of the programme which will be run from Paris. The WANAD is administered from Cotonou, the headquarters.

WANAD, in recognition of the immense task it faces, does not claim to have solved all the problems. It takes care of the heavy investments and leaves the countries, naturally, to take care of salaries and the running of the agencies.

The agencies, once they begin to function, constitute for the Pan African News Agency (PANA), for which they serve as correspondents in their various countries, another reason to justify their existence.

PANA also contributes to the training and know-how of the journalists of these national news agencies. PANA's editorial division is partly made up of journalists from these agencies, who reinforce the work of its own journalists in a rotation programme which the continental agency began since it started transmission on 25 May 1983. The journalists "on rotation" spend some three to four months to familiarise themselves with the work of PANA.

In addition, by processing the stories from these agencies, PANA not only disseminates their news, but also gives them a larger perspective on the international news market. As the director general of PANA, Mr Auguste Mpassi-Muba explained "PANA considers WANAD project a contribution to its development in the sense that the African national news agencies, in developing, consolidate the (PANA) system."

Wanad's coordinator said that the national news agency of every African country as well as PANA could become a veritable data bank on news within the current technological development. But to arrive at this level, the agencies have to be capable of self-financing, he added.

During a 9-day meeting at Saly Portudal, some 80 kilometres south of Dakar, a for a seminar to train the trainers, the editors-in-chief of some member countries of WANAD appealed to governments in a final document. They noted that funds allocated to national news agencies by the governments have been drastically reduced, more than 50 percent in some countries.

In view of the accelerated development of communications technology, it was important that the agencies be provided with the financial means to enable them find ways and means to seek additional resources, the meeting stated.

According to Fall, the sources are many. The agencies have to diversify their products, establish new products which are not part of the preoccupation of the major transnational news agencies. They should also set up commercial and marketing policies that are up to date,

identify the market needs for news in their countries and launch campaigns to sensitize non-media clients to know their products.

The African news agencies, which regulate national information and communication at this time, need to develop a strategy on communication to sort themselves out.

### Political Climate Linked to Economic Growth

AB0612184989 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 6 Dec 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The World Bank has, once again, risked controversy by suggesting that economic development and growth cannot be divorced from the political context in many African countries. The suggestion was first made in the annual report last month. It has been raised again by the first vice president of the bank, Mr Moen Qureshi, who qualified it, however, by saying that development institutions should avoid expressing support for either left- or right-wing political institutions. He was speaking during discussions with officials of the African Development Bank, the ADB, in Abidjan in the Ivory Coast, which he is visiting as part of a West African tour. Elizabeth Blunt was at the meeting and sent this report.

[Begin Blunt recording] The development institutions, like the World Bank and the African Development Bank, to take any open position on the politics of their member countries is traditionally considered both daring and dangerous. But at today's meeting in Abidjan, officials from both sides acknowledged that they were moving toward a point where the political context in which they were working could not be ignored much longer.

One of the ADB's vice presidents, (Tekely Ngedamou), cited a recent World Bank Study on Sub-Saharan Africa which, he said, in calling for political renewal on the continent, had touched on a subject which, for a long time, was supposed to be a taboo for those in the development business. The study had talked of widespread political decline in Africa with corruption, oppression, and nepotism increasingly evident.

Mr Qureshi said that they had to recognize that the deterioration of political institutions on the African Continent was just as much an obstacle to development as the deterioration of economic institutions. And, in particular, development organizations could not participate in a situation where there was clear political destruction and chaos. Since then, it was impossible to have a sustained process of economic growth. But he warned against creating an impression that taking the political context into account implied any kind of ideological position or support for the left or the right.

Mr Qureshi said that the strength of institutions like the World Bank and the ADB was safeguarded by political neutrality and that they should keep away from any kind of prescriptive stand which could get them into a great deal of trouble. [end recording]



## Gabon

### Death of Alleged Coup Plotter Announced

AB1312222389 Paris AFP in English 2027 GMT  
13 Dec 89

[Text] Libreville, Dec 13 (AFP)—Gabonese authorities Wednesday [13 December] announced the death in hospital of a second man detained in connection with a September coup plot against President Omar Bongo, but lawyers claimed that the suspect had died under interrogation.

Doukâkas Nziengui, charged with a part in the coup bid disclosed here on October 4, died in the Libreville Central Hospital "following excessively high blood pressure," the AGP News Agency said citing an official and a "medical" source.

However, lawyers for a human rights in Africa organization, CIRAC, said in a statement issued in Strasbourg, France, on Wednesday that Mr. Nziengui had died in the Libreville Central Prison during an "interrogation led by (A) Colonel Konan".

CIRAC is a Geneva-based non-governmental body founded in 1988, headed by an international lawyer, Maurice Massengo-Tiasse, it claims to have 1,300 members in Africa.

Mr. Nziengui was named in early reports of the enquiry into the planned coup as a water-board official who had played guide to an unidentified "mercenary" in Libreville, working on behalf of a Gabonese international civil servant in Paris who allegedly wanted to overthrow Mr. Bongo.

Mr. Bongo last month "regretted" the death here of a French National named as Richard Anton, adding in a November 25 television statement that it was a pity Mr. Anton's family had opposed an autopsy. A "medical source" said that Mr. Anton had died of malaria.

The circumstances of the coup bids, because Mr. Bongo said last month that there had been two recent plots against him and most of those responsible were to go on trial—remain far from clear. Mr Bongo has named Pierre Mamboundou, who currently heads an inter-African agency in Paris, as mastermind of the plan.

## Sao Tome & Principe

### Country Said 'Hit' by 'New Anticommunist Wave'

AB1212182989 London BBC World Service in English  
0730 GMT 12 Dec 89

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Excerpt] An African country that appears to have been hit by the new anticommunist wave in Europe is the island

Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. It lies off the West African coast, but further down really, because the country nearest to it to the mainland is Gabon. Sao Tome and Principe is described as an island paradise by those who know it. But for its tiny population of about 100,000, paradise would not be the right description. For some time now, the economy has been hit by low prices for the country's main export crop, cocoa. Things got so bad that Sao Tome and Principe went to the IMF to ask for help.

On the political front, pressure for political changes now forced the ruling party, the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe, which is the only party in the country, to decide at its recent congress to start making plans to allow other political parties to exist. The congress also took action to end the monopoly power enjoyed by President Pinto da Costa since 1975. It proposed that in future the head of state should not be allowed to serve more than two terms in office.

Candy Speard has been discussing the changes with journalist Joe Vandunem, who specializes in Sao Tome and Principe affairs. She asked him first of all if the changes are prompted solely by what happened in Eastern Europe.

[Begin recording] [Vandunem] It is true that the developments in Eastern Europe have asked to increase the pressure for reforms in Sao Tome, and certainly many of the leading members of the Central Committee were educated in East Germany including the president, Manuel Pinto da Costa. [sentence as heard] But the main factor remains the IMF agreement with Sao Tome and Principe.

[Speard] What was the nature of the IMF Government?

[Vandunem] [Words indistinct] (?recipe of) IMF and move toward the market economy coupled with political reforms.

[Speard] Which type of internal pressure? Who is the main protagonist internally in this reform movement?

[Vandunem] It ought to be Carlos Graca, the foreign minister, who is thought to be the leader of a social-democratic tendency. Mr Graca is a former dissident, who returned to Sao Tome and Principe in the government's amnesty of 1987.

[Speard] What changes will take place in the next few years in Sao Tome?

[Vandunem] Well, I believe that beginning at next year's congress, the party in Sao Tome will endorse the acceptance of more democracy within the party itself. Various tendencies will be allowed but not yet a multi-party system. And I believe that this is what the party wants because the people might be in favor of a multi-party system. So next year's congress in Sao Tome and Principe, we will move toward [words indistinct] of form rather than of substance. [end recording]

## Ethiopia

### Refugee Repatriation Commission Sets Deadline

EA1412111389 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 89

[Text] A tripartite meeting which prepared the ground for the voluntary repatriation of Ethiopian refugees in Somalia wound up its 3-day meeting today. The 3-day meeting, which opened on Monday [11 December] and was attended by the Ethiopian Government, the Somali Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], centered mostly on the basic needs, transportation; and shelter the returnees would need when they were repatriated to their country. Our news file reporter, Debebe Dufera, who was following the deliberations, has the details, which will be read by [name indistinct].

[Unidentified announcer] The 3-day meeting, held at the Ghion Hotel [Addis Ababa], has determined a deadline for the registration of the returnees in Somalia, and has determined the date of return. In this respect, the commission decided that the deadline for the returnees to register would be 28 February 1990.

This was the third time the tripartite commission was meeting, and the two meetings held earlier in Geneva and Mogadishu discussed what should be done for the returnees soon after their return home, the registration of the returnees, and long-term development assistance for the returnees. In this respect, the UNHCR will coordinate arrangements for the returnees to start coming as of 28 February, making finances available for this purpose. The UNHCR will also call upon the international community to assist in solving the problems of the returnees, and collect funds for this purpose.

Comrade Mersha Ketsela, minister of internal affairs, was the head of the delegation to this meeting on the Ethiopian side. The refugee affairs commissioner, Mr Abdi Farah, represented the Somali side. The UNHCR was represented by the commission's representative for Africa.

## Kenya

### Official Denies BBC Report on Somali Army Attack

EA1412104089 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English  
14 Dec 89 p 17

[NATION Reporter article: "Bore Denies BBC Report Over Somali Attack"]

[Text] The north-eastern provincial commissioner, Mr Amos Bore, yesterday denied a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) report on Tuesday night [12 December] that Somali soldiers had crossed into Kenya and killed four Kenyans in Wajir District, Kenya.

The BBC reporter who filed the story told the "NATION" that he had got the story from the KENYA NEWS AGENCY (KNA) filed from Wajir. However,

when the "NATION" contacted the KNA press office in Nairobi, the office denied their Wajir office had filed such a story.

When contacted, a spokesman at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation said that he had heard the BBC dispatch but he did not have any details.

### President Moi's Independence Day Address 12 Dec

AB1212184189 Nairobi KNA in English 0720 GMT  
12 Dec 89

[Text] Nairobi, 12 Dec (KNA)—Speech by his Excellency, Hon D.T. arap Moi, MP, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kenya.

Occasion—26th anniversary of Jamhuri [Republic] Day.  
Date 12 December 1989.

Dear Kenyans, today we celebrate the 26th anniversary of the day we achieved full independence as a sovereign state. This is an anniversary of great pride to us, and we are grateful that our friends from all over the world have sent us messages of goodwill. On behalf of all Kenyans, I express my profound thanks for their brotherly gesture.

Kenyans have every reason to celebrate this anniversary with joy, because we have seen the fruits of being a free and independent nation. While this may be the case, however, we should not lose sight of the reality that being independent means a lot more. It means not losing our sense of direction. It means that we should know, at all times, and in whatever we do, where we are coming from, where we would like to be in the years ahead, and also how we intend to get there.

At independence we took up the responsibility of conducting our own affairs, we have not, and indeed have no intention, to isolate ourselves from the rest of the world. But we also reject outside supervision. We are confident that we have the ability, the know-how and determination to run our own affairs. Our friends outside who would wish to dictate terms to us should on this day understand that Kenyans cherish friendship that is based on mutual respect and understanding.

While this message should be clear to all, we here in Kenya must, as the one way of proving our seriousness, conduct our affairs with maturity and confidence. We must avoid actions or statements which place us in a position to be ridiculed by others. The less we talk and the more we show our resolve through positive action the better for us.

It is clear that we have achieved much progress in many areas of national development during the short period of our history as an independent nation.

One achievement is the education system that has grown and has been restructured in accordance with the changing needs of our society. You all know that the primary and secondary phases of the 8-4-4 system are in place. Indeed the first group of more than 130,000 students have this year sat for the examination that will



enable those who qualify to enter into universities. At the university level, the integrated curriculum program for the 8-4-4 system has been prepared and the recruitment of staff is in progress.

But parents will need to put in more effort in the construction of the required physical facilities. Only half the number of workshops, home science rooms and classrooms required have been completed. Some districts have almost completed construction of these facilities, while others have performed far below expectations. I would like the officers concerned, in the districts which are lagging behind, to redouble their efforts in putting up these facilities.

I also wish to make some remarks on the university loans scheme. The repayment of the loans has been poor since those who benefited are avoiding to meet their obligations. The university loan unit has been strengthened in order to improve the speed and efficiency of recovering the backlog of loans. I call on those who have benefited from this scheme to start repaying the loans which have matured so that more Kenyans can be assisted with their education at our universities.

We have also done much to provide Kenyans with improved dwelling houses. During the past 11 years, over 18,000 housing units have been constructed by the national housing corporation in various urban centers. Many individuals have also been given loans to put up their own dwelling houses in rural areas.

In the major urban centres, the government has embarked on a program to develop slum areas. In Pumwani here in Nairobi, for example, 284 houses have been constructed and are ready for occupation. An additional 1,000 units will be completed next year. In Kibera, 1,000 flats are nearing completion, while another 1,000 will be built during the next two years.

But our population is growing rapidly, and we shall need to cater for the housing needs of the additional population. It is, therefore, clear that the provision of decent shelter will continue to be one of the challenges we face during the second nyayo [footsteps] decade. [as received] This is a challenge where the harambee [self-help] spirit can be applied more effectively. I am already aware that employees of various categories are faced with housing problems. This situation must be arrested from getting worse in both the rural and urban areas. I would like, therefore, employers, businessmen and relevant government ministries to come together and formulate a harambee program of increasing the stock of houses. The emphasis of this program should be at the district HQ level where housing needs are most acute.

My dear Kenyans, the problem of unemployment remains a matter of great concern to us all. The creation of employment opportunities is an urgent matter that calls for rational thinking on the part of those who seek employment.

It calls for understanding on the part of investors. Faced, for example, with a choice to be a chargehand in a Jua

Kali [open-air] garage or to remain unemployed, I would expect a rational job-seeker to choose the income-generating option of joining the Jua Kali garage. On its part, the government will continue to provide an enabling environment for increased investment. But investors will need to be aggressive in planning for larger returns in later years, instead of concentrating on making huge profits in the short-term.

We shall also do everything possible to strengthen the development of rural areas to alleviate unemployment and improve the standard of living for our people towards this end. I have today directed the office of the vice-president and Ministry of Finance to set up a fund to be known as the "rural enterprises fund." Initially, the government is setting aside some 120,000,000 shillings for the fund.

Meanwhile, disbursement mechanisms are being worked out. The fund, which will be managed through the district development committees, will enable small-scale traders and industrialists to set up viable projects in the rural areas.

We cannot, however, benefit fully from these efforts, when those who are charged with the responsibility of managing public funds do not fulfil their duties. The government has, for instance, invested large sums of public money in state corporations with the hope that the organizations would create employment opportunities, increase investments and family incomes. In effect, the government expected them to contribute to the basic objective of improving the well-being of Kenyans. But the overall performance of state corporations has left much to be desired. They have, by and large, failed to realise the objectives for which they were established.

There are some cases of outright mismanagement and misappropriation of public funds which will be dealt with according to the laws of the land. Those responsible for such unpatriotic behavior should know that Kenyans are no longer prepared to tolerate this state of affairs. No individual Kenyan has the right to enrich himself or herself from public resources. From now on, those who have betrayed the national cause will be taken to task and will accordingly be called upon to account for their misdeeds.

I have on many occasions urged all Kenyans to be mindful of the welfare of their fellow countrymen. But it appears as if some people are hesitant to heed this call. There are a number of Kenyans who have come to me with problems which could be solved by their district commissioners or some particular government officer. Some Wananchi [citizens] have even told me that they find it easier to communicate with me directly than hoping for assistance from this or that government ministry.

Further, it has come to my attention that some public servants have ignored the fact that they are the servants and not the masters of Wananchi. They have, therefore, developed an attitude of indifference towards serving them. As the chief servant of Wananchi, I cannot allow such an attitude to take root. From now on, therefore, appropriate steps will be taken against government officers who fail to assist Wananchi with their problems.

It will henceforth be assumed that those who fail to offer the required services to Wananchi have a part to play on the problem. Consequently, they should not blame me or other people when they are punished for their inability to serve Wananchi well.

Another matter of concern is the fact that many Kenyans have lost their lives and many more have been left with permanent injuries as a result of motor accidents. Most of these accidents are caused as a result of overloading. If we can only respect the sanctity of human life and act responsibly when on the roads, we may continue to make laws or issue regulations on safety of the roads, that will determine the success we make in reducing motor accidents. [sentence as received] Let us all remember that it costs nothing to be courteous to other road users.

On the international front, we believe in having a world that is free from war, a world in which all human beings can devote their energy for social and economic progress. We shall continue to uphold the principle of good-neighborliness. We seek genuine friendship of all our neighbors on an equal basis, and no more no less than the same treatment from them.

Kenyans know that no development can be possible in an atmosphere of chaos. This is the reason why we shall work towards peace among all nations of the world. We pray for peace in the Sudan, in Ethiopia, Mozambique and in southern Africa. We shall continue to call upon all peace-loving nations of the world to bring sufficient pressure to bear on South Africa to abandon apartheid. Mere statements by the racist leaders towards the abolition of apartheid are not enough. We want racial segregation to be completely dismantled in South Africa.

In conclusion, my dear Kenyans, I call on you all that, as we celebrate this day, to renew our commitment to building our country. We cannot achieve the growth and prosperity we need if we allow petty personal differences to divert us from the national cause. We cannot improve our well-being if we devote our energy to unproductive activities of undermining one another.

Let us, therefore, resolve on this great day to consolidate our national unity. Pull together and build one united and strong nation in the living spirit of our national philosophy of love for one another, peace for mankind and unshakeable unity.

Thank you and may God bless you all.

**Speculation Grows on 'Imminent' Mandela Release**

MB1412142989 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1420 GMT 14 Dec 89

[Text] Pretoria Dec 14 SAPA—Speculation is mounting the announcement of Nelson Mandela's release is imminent—possibly as early as this weekend.

A series of development this week has added up to such a scenario being quite within the bounds of possibility.

Firstly, on Tuesday [12 December] Mr Mandela's lawyer announced the jailed ANC [African National Congress] leader wanted, contrary to a belief in many circles, to be released now.

Then, on Wednesday, President F.W. de Klerk and two of his senior aides—Minister of Constitutional Development Dr Gerrit Viljoen and Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee—flew to Cape Town for a meeting with Mr Mandela in the presidential office at Tuynhuys.

On Friday Mr de Klerk is due to meet a senior southern African leader—President Joaquim Chissano—in Maputo.

At a joint press conference in July after the two leaders—when Mr de Klerk was still only National Party leader—had met in Maputo, President Chissano said if there was a definite move away from discrimination in South Africa, the country could become part of a regional group of southern African countries.

He said he believed the "problem of discrimination" would be solved during the term of office of the next South African state president, Mr de Klerk.

On Mr Mandela, whose release is generally seen as the key to getting "real" negotiations between white and black nationalists in South Africa underway—Mr de Klerk told the press conference at the presidential palace in Maputo Mr Mandela's position was discussed "in general terms, and we had the opportunity to exchange views in this regard".

On Saturday, President de Klerk—in his last major scheduled public appearance this year—is due to address a Day of the Vow gathering in Bloemfontein.

And Mr Coetsee, who as minister of justice is also in charge of South Africa's jails, as well as being [Orange] Free State leader of the National Party, is due to be present on the stage.

In the light of the recent statement by Mr de Klerk that there was no further fundamental impediment to Mr Mandela's release, and his briefing of President Chissano the previous day, a momentous announcement seems possible on Saturday [16 December], some observers believe.

It would be a move to extreme political symbolic significance that Mr Mandela's release be announced on the

Day of the Vow, marking the battle of the Blood River, one of the most important Afrikaner commemorations.

An observer asked: "What more appropriate day to announce the final beginning of reconciliation between black and white in South Africa?"

The white rightwing might indeed be outraged—but Mr de Klerk has signalled his unequivocal rejection of their views, the observer remarked.

**Mandela Gave P.W. Botha Document on ANC Position**

MB1412135389 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1352 GMT 14 Dec 89

[Text] Cape Town Dec 14 SAPA—Nelson Mandela handed a document outlining the ANC's [African National Congress] position to a peaceful settlement in South Africa to the government when he met the then, President P.W. Botha on July 5, news reports here on Thursday [14 December] said.

The handing-over of the 10-page document has been kept a secret by people close to Mr Mandela.

However, it is being speculated its contents were discussed at Wednesday's [13 December] meeting between Mr Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk.

Sources close to Mr Mandela confirmed on Thursday he gave the document to Mr Botha at their meeting in Tuynhuys.

"I do know now that a certain document was presented to P.W. Botha. It was a document that was outlining the policy of the ANC and its stand on the question of negotiations.

"Mr Mandela drew it up himself and, of course, in consultation with his colleagues inside," one source said.

**Nelson Mandela To Meet COSATU Leaders**

MB1412132789 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1248 GMT 14 Dec 89

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 14 SAPA—Nelson Mandela has invited 10 members of the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] Central Executive Committee to meet him next week, the labour federation said on Thursday [14 December].

The invitation follows a meeting on Wednesday [13 December] between Mr Mandela and State President F.W. de Klerk, which was initiated by Mr Mandela.

The COSATU members (?will see) Mandela in two groups of five, COSATU said.

On December 19, a (?group) made up of Chris Dlamini, [word indistinct] Cyril Ramaphosa, Sydney Mufamadi and Moses Mayekiso will meet the (?jailed leader) at his prison warder's house at Victor Vester Prison near Paarl in the Cape.



The second group which will meet Mr Mandela on December 22 consists of:

Elijah Barayi, Ronald Mofokeng, James Motlatsi, John Ehrentzen and Jay Naidoo.

The agenda of the meeting will be open-ended, according to COSATU.

"From our side we will brief Comrade Mandela on our perspective, on the current situation, the CDF [Conference for a Democratic Future], the anti-LRA campaign and other burning issues," a COSATU statement said.

#### **Reaction to De Klerk-Mandela Meeting Noted**

*MB1412104389 Johannesburg SOWETAN in English  
14 Dec 89 p 1*

[By Ismail Lagardien]

[Excerpts] In a surprise move that sowed confusion and concern among extra-parliamentary politicians, State President de Klerk yesterday met jailed ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela at Tuynhuys in Cape Town. [passage omitted]

Reacting to the meeting, the president of AZAPO [African People's Organization], Mr Nkosi Molala, yesterday said he was shocked and expressed concern that Mandela was talking to the Government while still behind bars.

Molala said any meaningful dialogue had to take place out of prison.

"We are even more concerned that the meeting came at Mandela's request. We thought that the aftermath of the last meeting (between Mandela and P.W. Botha) had exposed the dangers of talks with the regime," Molala said.

The general secretary of the Pan-Africanist Movement (PAM), Mr Benny Alexander, said he was confused.

"When Mandela met PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] stalwart Japhta Masemola recently, (Walter) Sisulu said Mandela had no mandate to talk to anyone.

"Furthermore, the CDF (Conference for a Democratic Future) declared at the weekend that this was not the time for talks," Alexander said. PAM was not part of the CDF. [passage omitted]

#### **Death Row Prisoner Pleads Guilty to Mxenge Killing**

*MB1412093089 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0929 GMT 14 Dec 89*

[Text] Pietermaritzburg Dec 14 SAPA—Death row prisoner Almond Butana Nofomela pleaded guilty on Thursday [14 December] in the Pietermaritzburg magistrate's court to the murder of anti-apartheid activist and lawyer, Griffiths Mxenge.

Nofomela appeared in green prison overall and slippers, he was wearing leg irons and sat in the dock between two burly prison wardens.

Nofomela is represented by Mr Des Kuny, OC [Queen's Counsel], who was appointed to defend him by Lawyers for Human Rights.

The court adjourned briefly to allow discussion between Nofomela and his counsel.

Nofomela was first to allege the existence of a police hit squad which allegedly assassinated Mr Mxenge, a Durban civil rights lawyer.

Nofomela read the following statement to the court:

"I have pleaded guilty to the charge and I am tending this statement with full understanding.

"At the time of the murder I was member of the (police) special branch assassination squad.

"I was instructed by Brig (Willem) Schoon and Capt (Dirk) Coetzee to proceed to Durban and there to kill one Griffiths Mlungisi Mxenge.

"I and three colleagues, Brian Justice Mqulunga, David Tshikalange and Joseph Mamaselala, proceeded to the vicinity of Umlazi where we apprehended Mxenge and took him to the Umlazi stadium where we proceeded kicking him and punching him and finally stabbing him to death," Nofomela said.

The case was adjourned for the attorney-general's consideration and is to be resumed on February 28 next year.

#### **Foreign Minister Meets Counterpart in Vienna**

*AU1212204389 Vienna Television Service in German  
1830 GMT 12 Dec 89*

[Horst Kimbacher report]

[Text] South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha was in Vienna today. During his visit, the extent of the new thinking in South Africa's foreign policy has become apparent. Botha held talks on South Africa's possible signing of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which was drafted in 1970, but which his country, which is considered a nuclear threshold country, has not signed so far. Shortly before his departure, at an improvised meeting with Foreign Minister Mock at Vienna's Schwechat Airport, Botha commented on events in Eastern Europe. During a news conference this afternoon, Botha also assessed the fundamental changes in Eastern Europe and their impact on the African Continent.

[Begin Botha recording in English with superimposed German translation] To speak bluntly, some of the governments and parties in Africa who used to rely almost exclusively on the East bloc no longer exist. These parties and leaders no longer have any comrades. [end recording]

Upon Botha's request, Austria's Foreign Minister Mock met the visitor from South Africa in the special visitors' room at Schwechat Airport this evening. Asked what he expects from the meeting, Mock replied:

[Begin Mock recording] I expect information on the situation in the southern part of Africa, which has for many years been quite dangerous—not only in the region but worldwide—because of South Africa's adherence to the system of apartheid which we strongly condemn. The community of states and the United Nations have repeatedly taken action in this connection. [end recording]

After the meeting, Mock stated that he has the impression that the South African Government really wants to gradually implement the announced reforms and to expand dialogue with the black majority in the country.

**Botha: African People 'Lost Faith' in Communism**

AU1312125389 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German  
13 Dec 89 p 2

[Report by "HS": "'EC' for Southern Africa?"]

[Text] Vienna—"There is great potential for a joint reconstruction plan between the RSA [Republic of South Africa] and the ten countries in southern Africa." RSA Foreign Minister Roelof Botha presented such a program in Vienna on Tuesday [12 December] a program that he regards as a combination between European and South African support for this region. What the long-standing minister has in mind is the formation of "something similar to the EC."

The minister received the impetus for his plan from his intensive contacts with black African leaders. "During the past 2 years we have dramatically improved our relations with the African countries. These countries look at the RSA as a country of which they can be proud." Botha said that during in this process he met with their increasing understanding that the regional technological, economic and industrial problems must be solved on the continent itself. "The Europe of 1992 might play a special role."

Moreover, "it can be felt" that the recent developments in East Europe have a "great importance" for Africa, where countries "have lost the faith in a system that failed. This applies to the ANC as well."

The reason for Botha's 2-day visit to Vienna were negotiations with the depositary states of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty concerning RSA membership. The RSA official said that progress was made and that contacts would be continued.

**8 Dec Press Review on Current Problems, Issues**

MB0812124089

[Editorial Report]

**THE CITIZEN**

**Extent of National Service Period Cut 'Surprise'—**  
Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 8 December in its page 6 editorial refers to the government announcement to halve the initial period of national service, saying "the extent of the cut is a surprise, since on the face of it one year's service hardly seems to provide sufficient time in which to train soldiers effectively." THE CITIZEN also believes "there will be misgivings in some quarters, since we have come to rely on having a powerful and well-trained Defence Force, armed with sophisticated South African-made weaponry suited to bush warfare. The stronger the force, the greater the claim by South Africa to be the regional power in Southern Africa. Any weakening of the Defence Force (as well as the Police Force) would badly affect that image."

**THE STAR**

**Approval of Reduction in Military Service Period—**  
"Nobody except a few die-hard securocrats will fail to applaud the reduction of compulsory military service to one year," remarks a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 8 December. THE STAR says "it would be wrong" for South Africa to "drop all its defences. Borders must be guarded. The new Namibia may not always be as stable as hoped for, and other neighbours present different kinds of potential instability. Still, the ultimate aim—as repeatedly urged by this newspaper, among others—should be for a smaller, well-trained volunteer army rather than a big, unwieldy one including many reluctant conscripts."

**Call for Recognition of Unions—**A second editorial on the same page states: "Great strides have been made in collective bargaining in South Africa in the past decade. But the extent to which the deadlocked rail strike has descended into violence is indication enough that much work still has to be done to achieve the peaceful settlement of disputes." "The way forward, as many private enterprise companies have found, has been to recognise unions even when they do not meet all the legal criteria and so avoid adding fuel to the usual sensitivities over wages. Wherever possible, disputes should be limited to their original parameters—which are mainly related to pay and work conditions."

**BUSINESS DAY**

**Military Service Cut 'Dismantling' Totalitarian State—**  
Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 8 December in a page 10 editorial says the decision to cut military service by half "must be warmly applauded as a first step towards a rationalisation of government that should, if it is carried through to the end, amount to the dismantling of the totalitarian state." "The trimming of military power that has occurred so far is a healthy start to the clean-up, but only a start. A determined effort must be made now to put the generals and the colonels back into their proper place, and that begins with an assessment of possible military threat. Considering the sorry condition of our neighbours, and the withdrawal of



the Great Powers from the continent, that threat is trivial, and our military needs not much greater."

**Editorial on Violence of Railway Strikers**—"As the railway strike continues, and the killings, intimidation and arson escalate, strikers and management each accuse the other of being responsible for the violence," declares a second editorial on the same page. "The only way to root out the violence and establish the truth of the conflicting claims is to bring the accused before a public court where they can be questioned and cross-examined. If both sides are against violence, they will see that as many thugs as possible are brought to justice."

#### SOWETAN

**Transportation Service Needs To Listen to Workers**—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 8 December in a page 8 editorial observes that the "SA [South Africa] Transport Services (SATS) is so convinced it is on the right path to industrial peace that it has taken out adverts in newspapers setting out its case and trying to show that the SA Railways and Harbour Workers Union (SARHWU) is the villain. By Wednesday 5,601 workers had already been fired because SATS is 'rendering an essential service and in order to curb the violence and intimidation'." SOWETAN believes that "SATS needs to listen to the workers and get to the bottom of their grievances without sticking to dangerous bureaucratic form."

**People Resist Government 'Dummy' Institutions**—Joe Thloloe writes in "Perspective" column on pages 9 and 15 of Johannesburg SOWETAN for 8 December that the colored Representative Council collapsed and led to the present tricameral Parliament, and "it is now very clear that the Government experiments with various dummy institutions—those that do not erode white power—and measures the level of resistance to them. If the resistance is high the Government quickly moves to something else." Thloloe believes the "people's resistance to dummy institutions, particularly between 1984 and 1986, has contributed considerably to the creation of the current ferment in South African politics." Therefore, inviting homeland leaders to the Conference for a Democratic Future "might be a tactical move that takes into account that they are in fact the only people the National Party wants to talk to at this stage but the costs of that tactic need to be calculated carefully."

#### 9 Dec Press Review

MB0912135489

[Editorial Report]

#### THE CITIZEN

**Commission Sole Means To Probe 'Hit Squad' Reports**—"We are sorry that the State President, Mr F.W. de Klerk, has refused to appoint a judicial commission to probe the allegations that police hit squads have killed political activists," claims a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 9 December.

"Radicals are not going to accept that investigations and actions taken by Attorneys-General are an adequate substitute for a judicial probe, and they will continue to suggest that the government is involved in a cover-up." "The only way to counter this would be to have a judicial commission to investigate all the allegations and establish whether hit squads did or did not exist, and who were responsible if they did exist." "Anything to do with these cases—and any more brought to the government's attention—must be ruthlessly exposed. If not, the 'climate of suspicion and mistrust' to which the State President refers will not be dispelled. And the allegations of hit squad activity will haunt South Africa and irreparably damage its image. This, at a time when Mr de Klerk's relaxed style and reforms are causing a reassessment of South Africa abroad, would be terrible."

#### CAPE TIMES

**Time To Clear Up 'Clandestine' Killings**—"The escape of three rightwing activists who are suspected of a murderous bombing attack on an UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] post in Namibia raises many perturbing questions", especially since "the three men, who may be able to throw light on the activities of death squads elsewhere in the region, might have provided valuable insight into the plague of political assassination and the shadowy forces behind it," points out a page 8 editorial in Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 6 December. "The effect of the escape is to bring home more strongly than ever the need for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry to cut this scandal open to the bone. South Africa cannot enter an era of negotiation with unresolved mysteries of this kind hanging in the air. Clandestine operations seem to have got out of hand during the presidency of Mr P.W. Botha. And beyond the security forces various extremist organisations lurk in the shadows. Who is responsible for the killings? It is time to find out."

**Government Owes Public Explanation on Comoros Spending**—"The way the Minister of Foreign Affairs calmly announced that South Africa was suspending all aid to the Comoro Islands", including aid to the "controversial" presidential guard, "following last week's assassination of President Ahmed Abdallah was breathtaking," believes a second editorial on the same page. "It is astonishing that the first time South African taxpayers find out they have been supporting this unit, headed by a French mercenary, Bob Denard, is when the government decides to halt such support." "The international distaste brought upon South Africa because of the government's race policies has forced Pretoria to be discreet about its involvement in Africa. But secret financial support for an armed unit of this sort was beyond the pale, even before some of its members apparently decided to bump off President Abdallah. Mr Botha and the government owe the South African taxpayers a fuller explanation of their involvement in the Comoros."

11 Dec Press Review

MB1112113089

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY STAR

**SAP 'Hit Squad' Probe Undermines De Klerk's Credibility**—"Here we go, full steam ahead to the courts in an effort to get to the bottom of the hit-squad controversy," announces a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 10 December. "This is the 'fast track' Mr F.W. de Klerk has chosen in preference to what he says would be a time-consuming judicial inquiry." "Although Mr de Klerk's announcement of pending court action and his desire to see justice carried out swiftly is to be welcomed, his decision to allow the police to continue investigating themselves still undermines his credibility." "Even more questionable is the Government's decision to pursue, for the purposes of prosecution, only those who committed murder inside the country and not to bother with those, presumably within its reach, who acted in the name of South Africa beyond our borders. The Government either condones murder or it does not. Once it turns a blind eye to killing in its name outside the country, it gets on to a very slippery slope of dubious logic." "The strongest message the courts could deliver in the coming weeks is that murder will not be condoned, no matter who perpetrates or sponsors it."

**De Klerk Must Remove 'Group Pawn' From 'Chessboard'**—"President F.W. de Klerk's speech before the President's Council last month was of historic importance," recalls Sampie Terreblanche, Stellenbosch University economics professor and Democratic Party adviser, in an article on the same page. "His reference to constitutional matters was probably of greater significance than his announcement about the scrapping of the Separate Amenities Act and the opening of beaches." "If I evaluate Mr de Klerk's speech against the background of pronouncements by his constitutional Ministers, I have no choice but to remain a sharp opponent of the De Klerk Government—not in the aggressive sense of the word, but in the democratic sense. I want to raise two serious complaints against the De Klerk Government's approach to constitutional matters. My first complaint is connected with his claim that whites 'have attained full freedom in a just and equitable manner'. This claim cannot be substantiated." "My second complaint concerns Mr de Klerk's request that possible participants in the negotiation process should 'leave petty politics' aside and come forward to test the Government's commitment to reform. The Government is clearly not prepared to leave its petty politics aside." Terreblanche recognizes that, while De Klerk "talked about 'reconciliation'", he "did not spell out what he and his Government were prepared to give or to 'sacrifice' to reach reconciliation and to get negotiations going" and that "he and his Ministers continue to use the 'group approach' as a key pawn on their political chessboard." "It is high time for the National Party to sacrifice its 'group approach' and

to accept the inevitability of a non-racial democracy in a one-nation State." "If Mr de Klerk is as serious about reconciliation and negotiation as he claims to be, he should realise that one of the most important prerequisites is to remove the 'group' pawn from the political chessboard."

**State Must Reappraise Role in Fostering Liberty**—"In South Africa, Human Rights Day has in the past been marked by a ritual, at once solemn and familiar. We have on this day recounted a litany of abuse by the State that has destroyed many of our most valued rights," notes an article on the same page by "Lawyer for Human Rights" David Unterhalter. "Today, we can perhaps be more optimistic", since "a Bill of Rights ranks first among the institutions that must be put in place" and "support for this idea is to be found not just among the present Government critics, but increasingly in Government circles, too." "As we now consider the form that the State is to assume in a future constitutional dispensation, it is important to consider the role of the State as a promoter of liberty. We must liberate our view of the State as an actual or potential violator of our freedom." "We must reappraise the role of the State and its responsibility to foster liberty in two ways. First, the State ought to entrench those institutions that make liberty something of substance." "Second, the State ought to endow every subject with those resources necessary to make the enjoyment of liberty a reality." "The challenge for South Africa and those concerned with human rights is that we develop a tradition of rights-based thinking that merges a long tradition of individual rights against the State with the rehabilitation of the State as an agency which has the duty to make freedom flourish."

SUNDAY TIMES

**Military Cuts Best Christmas Gift**—"The halving of compulsory military service earns applause on at least three counts: Its beneficial effect on the lives of thousands of young men, its impact on the economy, and what it says about the changing political and security climate in our region," observes a page 28 editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 10 December. SUNDAY TIMES claims the shorter military service will "reduce the drain of brain that South Africa can ill afford to lose" and "provide some relief to those who have principled objections to military service", benefit the economy by bringing a "healthy reduction in State expenditure" and by representing "an important shift away from security-oriented economic management towards policies that are more focused on growth", and reflect "a welcome change in the sub-continental security climate." "Altogether, then, South Africa could scarcely have been presented with a better Christmas box."

THE STAR

**Editorial on Importance of Democratic Future Conference**—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 11 December says in a page 12 editorial the "most significant and encouraging feature" of the Conference for a

Democratic Future (CDF) held at the weekend is the fact that the "mobilisation of extra-parliamentary anti-apartheid groups within South Africa has begun." THE STAR believes the "biggest threat and challenge" from the conference is its "confrontational" decision to intensify its campaign against apartheid and its "rejection of the Government's reform moves as any indication of genuine intent to move past apartheid." THE STAR also points out the "CDF aim of establishing a united front against apartheid may have been too ambitious. The range of political opinions and strategies makes consensus unlikely. The organisers themselves, for instance, showed no enthusiasm for homeland government participation, gave the Democratic party only observer status and were faced with a stay-away from the Pan-Africanist Movement and most of NACTU [National Council of Trade Unions]. AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] opposed negotiation. Those signs of division, however, are not the yardstick by which to minimise the conference's importance."

#### BUSINESS DAY

**F.W. de Klerk 'Death Squad' Investigation 'Blunder'**—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 11 December claims in a page 8 editorial that in rejecting public demands for a commission of inquiry into "death squad" allegations, "President de Klerk has committed the first major blunder of his presidency." He has invoked "those devices of government, such as the police, the lower courts and the much-abused sub judice rule, which are most deeply distrusted by the majority of South Africans, in order to avoid using the one remaining institutional instrument that retains a measure of public trust, which is the higher judiciary." BUSINESS DAY declares President de Klerk has "ducked the real issue: Murder is bad enough, but it occurs in the normal course of human life; police 'death squads' are a mortal threat to the life of a nation, an instrument which may be turned on the political leaders of any party at any time—including the ruling party or the State President himself."

**Group Areas Act Distorts Property Market**—A second editorial on the same page says proclaiming the first free settlement areas resulted in "a scramble for property by people disadvantaged by the Group Areas Act." "The market has been artificially distorted by the Group Areas Act, and only the repeal of that legislation will remove that distortion. Free Settlement areas do not lessen the evils of group areas; they expose and aggravate them by effectively creating new coloured, black or Indian suburbs."

#### SOWETAN

**Praise for Sisulu Negotiation Stance**—"Mr Walter Sisulu rose well to the occasion when he appealed to Mr F.W. de Klerk to join the democratic movement at the Conference for a Democratic Future on Saturday," remarks Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 11 December in its page 8 editorial. "There are those who feel that the

movement towards negotiation is premature and may go disastrously wrong. There are others who say this quantum leap in setting the rules for negotiating with the government and its allies might lead to the Muzorewa option. If the mega trends in the world are showing where leaders are prepared to go towards being pragmatic, the men from Robben Island fit into the international chemistry of such thinking."

#### NEW NATION

**NP 'Disintegrating' Under Mass Action Pressure**—Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 8-14 December says in its page 6 editorial the Conference for a Democratic Future "will mark another milestone in the annals of the broad democratic movement and the struggle against apartheid in this country. It is, however, unfortunate that certain forces within the anti-apartheid movement opted out of this important event at the last minute." NEW NATION points out these forces declined to participate in the conference "at a time when the social base of the ruling National Party is disintegrating. The recent dismantling of the State Security Council is a case in point. And the government's drifting is not its own goodwill. It is a clear response to pressure of mass action by our people and the support action of the anti-apartheid community worldwide." NEW NATION believes "leaders of all political persuasions" should realize the strength of the democratic movement "lies not in the excellent speeches made for the public gallery, but in the actions of our people on the ground."

#### 12 Dec Press Review

MB1212104089

[Editorial Report]

#### THE STAR

**Editorial Warns ANC Against Rejecting Capitalism**—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 12 December refers in a page 14 editorial to the Conference for a Democratic Future's call for "the rejection of capitalism and the free-market as solutions to our economic problems," and "attacked deregulation and privatisation." THE STAR warns the African National Congress (ANC) to be "careful that its rhetoric about capitalism is not taken literally, nor taken too far. At the current level the debate could become quite silly, and tend to alienate some valuable support." Capitalism has "been changing in South Africa." "Activists may, if they wish, now view capitalism as a more subtle enemy, but it is not the same old ogre to be slain or destroyed out of hand." Capitalism offers South Africa "one of the more hopeful solutions in sight for its huge economic problems. Doctrinaire socialism offers very little, and its record in black Africa is particularly abject."

#### BUSINESS DAY

**Mass Movement Marches Down Economic 'Blind-Alley'**—"Possibly the best way to sum up the decisions of the so-called conference for a democratic future at



Wits [Witwatersrand University] on Saturday [9 December] is to say that, despite some belated second thoughts and partial retraction, the intention was to redirect against capitalism and the free markets the 41-year fight against apartheid that is now approaching its end," remarks Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 12 December in a page 6 editorial. "Another way of expressing the same thought is to say that the MDM [Mass Democratic Movement] and its various associates continue to march bravely down the darkest political blind-alley of this century—from which all Eastern Europe is struggling to escape." "The folly of turning an attack on apartheid into an attack on capitalism seems, to judge from the repudiation by the conference of its own previous statement, to have penetrated some corners of the collective MDM mind. In any event, the tilts at capitalists must be seen less as a rational act than as a display of emotion—a cry of resentment against deprivation, a longing for a share of the country's wealth and for the status and privilege which it brings, a burst of envy, and a desire to hurt those who are rich and complacent."

#### SOWETAN

**State Must Act Against Those Furthering Apartheid—**"The revelations of the sinister and hidden acts of Hit Squads and the way in which rightwingers are kicking and screaming to resist the break from old apartheid ways show the size of the struggle we will experience before liberation," observes Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 12 December in its page 6 editorial. If the government is serious about eradicating apartheid it should "act decisively against groups and people that further it," and make all forms of apartheid illegal. "After all this evil system was legalised and institutionalised by the State. The manner in which the Government is pussy-footing in taking action against alleged Hit Squads and outright racists does not inspire confidence in those who are willing to negotiate with it."

#### RAPPORT

**UN Apartheid Debate To 'Bedevil' Reform—**"It is not surprising that Minister Pik Botha has stated that the planned UN debate on 'apartheid'—apart from being pointless—can only bedevil the reform process in South Africa," notes an editorial on page 30 of the Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans of 10 December. "Why should the UN debate be held when Mr Botha's letter clearly points out that the government is 'irrevocably committed to the creation of a new South Africa based on a free and equal constitutional, social, and economic system'? The government has set itself so far along the path of reform that the old politics—that which until a brief 3 months ago was still with us—has been finally left behind. But it still remains unclear how far along this path the government will be met. We must hope that those who are to be its future partners in dialogue will not be misled into believing, by events such as those at the United Nations, that there is an easier way out for them than for the government from the South African

dilemma; or that they cannot be the cause of opportunities, existing at present, being lost."

#### RAPPORT

**Need for 'Irreproachable' State Authority Instruments—**A page 30 editorial in Johannesburg RAPPORT declares: "It is correct that the police reach to the bone of the allegations about murder squads as quickly as possible. At the same time much can be said for an inquiry by a judicial commission—but the long time lapse before completion could be a minus." "What is involved here is more than allegations that leftist activists were eliminated. It is equally disturbing that some acts of violence and threats can be traced to reaction to the speeding up of the vitally necessary political developments. In the light of this, it is important that state's instruments of authority be irreproachable."

**Police Murder Squad Claims Hinder Reconciliation—**In his column on the same page, INSIGHT editor Piet Muller writes: "Can democracy defend itself by using the methods applied by the enemies of democracy? For some time this question has been more than academic for South Africans. Despite the impenetrable walls of silence and censure around certain aspects of society enough information has leaked out over the past few years to indicate that democracy has been tainted by a cancer and could die if not nursed like a patient in an intensive care ward. That is one of the reasons why President F.W. de Klerk's style of government has drawn an audible national sigh of relief. South Africa needs him now, not only to address urgent political problems, but especially also to heal the psychological wounds which caused decades of strife and unrest." "South Africans all want to be able to hold their heads high once more and look the international community in the face without shame." "That is why President de Klerk deserves praise for not hesitating to announce that people will be brought to court over alleged involvement in police murder squads." "It is praiseworthy that the police themselves are prepared to act mercilessly against elements in their midst who have transgressed the law. But that will not end the tale of violence, not by a long shot. From the available facts there is a prima facie case that not all the crimes which occurred were the work of groups of fanatics. Murdering 61 activists overseas is not the work of loners. That kind of thing needs strong logistical support. Support given by whom? There can be no talk of reconciliation in South Africa till these matters have been cleared up. And without reconciliation there can be no talk at all of a political settlement."

#### TRANSVALER

**Treurnicht Flatters Right Wing—**"Unless we are reading the signs wrong, and without being alarmist, one can now say a revolutionary syndrome is establishing itself in right-wing ranks," states a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 7 December. "It is even more dangerous when the violence option is encouraged by people in responsible public positions. Dr

Andries Treurnicht is such a person. Even though the Conservative Party leader has repeatedly given the assurance that neither he nor his party supports the revolutionary philosophy, he must excuse people if they conclude he is trying to flatter the right-wing toughs."

**Suspicious Cast on Police To Get at State**—On the same page Gert Kotze writes in his "On Close Inspection" column the South African Police's (SAP) "behavior is under suspicion: Its prestige has received a couple of ugly blows. That is what some people believe now, and it suits them, because they have always wanted that." "Naturally their motive is well-known: the police force is just a convenient vehicle to get at the government. The police force is regarded as being a parallel force alongside the country's rulers and have orders to ensure these rulers' policies are put into practice." Therefore, "while the SAP is burning now, a self-investigation is not inappropriate. The campaign against the force will increase, especially now that so many 'give-aways' have landed in the laps of those casting the suspicion. Henceforth, the SAP must be even more prepared to place itself above suspicion."

### BEELD

**Shorter National Service Period Welcome**—"South Africa could hardly have received a better Christmas present that President F.W. de Klerk's announcement that national service will be reduced from two years to one year from 1990," declares Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 8 December in a page 12 editorial. "A shorter national service, together with more intensive training, can still ensure a prep red army which remains vital for external threat and internal stability. The new setup is welcomed. It is one more beacon on the road to normality."

**Union Leaders 'Silent' on Strikers' Violence**—"The violence and intimidation that characterizes strikes these days is cause for serious concern," says a second editorial on the same page. "South Africa's labor laws are of the most modern in the world. They are widely accepted as an example of the reform progress. The legislation has demanded many adaptations and sacrifices by workers, but they have realized a modern economy is not possible without full trade union rights. Employers and trade union bosses must, as it were, be prepared to accept each other as enemies and, also to trust each other. BEELD points out that "because union leaders play such an important role in the present reform struggle in South Africa, one would expect responsible union leaders to do their utmost to prevent the ugly turn strikes have taken. Don't believe it. They remain very silent."

### 13 Dec Press Review

MB1312110789

[Editorial Report]

### THE CITIZEN

**Right Wingers Take Law Into Own Hands**—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 11 December says in its page 6 editorial now that the beaches are thrown open to all races and the Separate Amenities Act is to be repealed right wingers "are beginning to express their intolerance of what is going on—and Boksburg has become the focal point of these new bittereinders [die-hards]." Unfortunately, Andries Treurnicht, the Conservative Party (CP) leader, "has unwittingly given encouragement to them. Every time he warns the government, 'Do not under-estimate our will to resist,' right-wingers are encouraged to believe he means violence, although he says he is talking of ballots and not bullets. We believe Dr Treurnicht should now unequivocally call on his followers not to use violence or take the law into their own hands."

**ANC Hopes To Make 1990's 'Turbulent Decade'**—The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 12 December refers to the Conference for a Democratic Future (CDF) held in Johannesburg at the weekend, saying what it is really saying with the resolutions it adopted is that "the South African Government should abdicate its authority and hand over to the Black masses, meaning the ANC [African National Congress]. The CDF's demands and threats are clearly a signal that the ANC, and its fronts and supporters are determined to make the 1990's a turbulent decade, in the hope of achieving power. The government, they obviously believe, will not be able to put the lid back on again for fear of destroying the goodwill it has been achieving internationally." But THE CITIZEN believes the government will not allow the country to be "turned upside down by the radicals."

### THE STAR

**Police Provoke Trouble**—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 13 December refers in a page 20 editorial to the "Trojan Horse" incident in Athlone in the Cape where six armed policemen concealed in crates on an unmarked truck opened fire into a crowd immediately it started to stone the truck. Three persons were killed and the prosecution has ended with the acquittal of the 13 accused people. THE STAR says the Trojan Horse "affair remains deplorable." The "function of the police is to prevent trouble—not provoke it—using minimal reasonable force."

**Boksburg Open Amenities Develops into 'Running Sore'**—A second editorial on the same page declares: "With the lifting of the black consumer boycott in the wake of President de Klerk's moves on open amenities, Boksburg looked set to revert to its old, low-profile self. Instead, it shows signs of developing into a running sore which will keep it well and truly in an unwelcome spotlight." Right wingers and colored residents who clashed at Boksburg Lake over the weekend "threaten to return to the lake and claim their 'rights'." THE STAR advises the coloreds to "back off" until F.W. de Klerk



"fulfills his promise to scrap the Separate Amenities Act, thus removing the bigots' slender legal excuse to misbehave."

#### BUSINESS DAY

**De Klerk 'Flexibility' Restores Confidence**—"The message from the markets is strong and clear: The political flexibility of President de Klerk has restored a great measure of confidence, here and abroad, in the future of this country," affirms a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 13 December. "Sensible people know that President de Klerk has embarked on a course of action of which the only logical outcome is negotiation for a new South Africa [SA]. The action in the markets says it plainly that, whatever the new SA turns out to be, it can't be worse than the old SA of ex-President Botha and his securocrats."

#### SOWETAN

**Call To End Separate Education**—"It must be obvious the separate system of education has led to a large, unworkable bureaucratic monster that is not only expensive, but serves no interests whatever," claims the page 8 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 13 December. "The Government should listen to the people and sound economic advice from the private sector for the entire system to be scrapped, so that a viable single education for all the children of South Africa can be created."

#### CAPE TIMES

**Call To Lift Emergency**—The election of office-bearers of the United Democratic Front (UDF) in the Western Cape has brought home the "absurdity of maintaining a wide range of restrictions in force while either ignoring or selectively enforcing them," observes Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 7 December in a page 6 editorial. "The UDF declares itself unrestricted and newly-elected office bearers issue statements in its name. On instructions, the police stand by and look the other way." State President F.W. de Klerk "has nothing to lose and everything to gain by unbanning the ANC, lifting the press restrictions and, finally, scrapping the state of emergency. Why prolong the agony?"

**De Klerk Reducing Power of Security Establishment**—On page 8 of Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 8 December Gerald Shaw writes in his "Political Survey" column on page 8 that F.W. de Klerk's "battle to restore the supremacy of civil government after a decade of dominance by the security establishment is in a critical phase." It is "not yet clear how far he will go in uncovering the death squad scandal." "You can never be absolutely sure where it will all end—or how high up in the hierarchy the scandal might reach." But if De Klerk "reduces the security establishment to its proper place in the scheme of things, Mr De Klerk will be laying a solid foundation for negotiation—and building a basis of trust between all the parties, ANC included, who are concerned to build a new South Africa."

#### CITY PRESS

**Criticism of Pan-Africanists' Rejection of Conference**—"We were disappointed to learn that yesterday's historic Conference for a Democratic Future was not as fully representative as the organisers had planned," says a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English on 10 December. "The pull-out by Pan-Africanists adversely affected the purpose of the conference." "Whatever reasons the Pan-Africanists gave for not participating at the conference, history will judge them by their actions. People are tired of the so-called leaders who look after their own interests in the name of the struggle but at the expense of the masses. We can only hope the Africanists will wake up to the realities of our political situation before it is too late."

**ANC Force To 'Reckon With'**—In his "My Way" column on the same page Khulu Sibiyana refers to the talks between ANC members and a group of South Africans near Paris, saying: "Although the conference was not as representative as planned—because government officials were absent—the Broederbond [Afrikaner brotherhood] members who attended would take the message to the government. And that message would be: 'The ANC are well-organised and a force to be reckoned with'."

#### BEELD

**Military Service Cutback 'Peace Gesture'**—"The CP's alarm over the announcement of the cutback in military service from a period of two years to one year is not surprising," remarks Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 11 December in a page 12 editorial. BEELD notes there is "no question of a military vacuum which would amount to an invitation to South Africa's enemies to suddenly consider a little adventure." "Naturally peace has not descended. But the climate and the rules of the game have changed dramatically and it serves as justification for a calculated and well-considered peace gesture."

**Acceptable Alternatives Needed for Group Areas Laws**—A second editorial on the same page says "the attempts to create acceptable alternatives for the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act through negotiations is the only practical way to solve one of South Africa's most contentious problems: how to abolish outdated laws without threatening existing values and standards. It is unrealistic to ask the government to simply abolish these laws. Abolishing the laws without putting something in their place can cause chaos and will do reform more harm than good."

#### BEELD

**Murder Squad Cover-Up Unlikely**—"Against the background of President F.W. de Klerk's actions since he took over power, there is no reason to expect serious allegations about the existence of a police murder squad will be covered up," says Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 12 December in a page 14 editorial.

**Suspicion of AWB Activities Increases**—A second editorial on the same page says the Afrikaner Resistance Movement's (AWB) name "consistently emerges in the present police actions against suspected right-wing collaborators and perpetrators of violence. Of those detained some are or were AWB members." "It is unavoidable that suspicion that already existed about the AWB will be strengthened. What influence does Mr Eugene Terreblanche's blood-, battle-, and Afrikaner homeland-rhetoric have? The emotional mass meetings? The uniforms and weapons?"

#### VRYE WEEKBLAD

**Murder Squad Investigation Unsatisfactory**—Johannesburg VRYE WEEKBLAD in Afrikaans on 8 December points out the government has not appointed a judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of police murder squads, saying there "is much speculation the government may condemn all bomb attacks on and murders of activists abroad, and may only investigate the internal actions. If that is the case, it is completely unsatisfactory." "It will be a pity for the government to act half-heartedly. The police murder squad is a matter that cuts to the quick of our society. There should be no coverup."

**Call To Reduce Conscientious Objectors' Sentences**—A second editorial on the same page welcomes the cutback in the period of national military service, saying "we hope in these days of glasnost the government will look at the sentences a couple of conscientious objectors have received. It will only be fair to reduce their periods of imprisonment."

#### THE NAMIBIAN

**Urgent Need for Government**—The page 7 editorial in Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English on 8 December says "it must be regarded as a matter of urgency that a government be established without unnecessary delays. At the moment we have a police force which owes its allegiance to the South African Administrator General—instead of to a government which represents the people of this country. This unsatisfactory state of affairs also extends to the civil service, which is likewise controlled by the colonial governor."

#### 14 Dec Press Review

MB1412133389

[Editorial Report]

#### THE STAR

**De Klerk-Mandela Meeting More Than 'Courtesy Visit'**—"What precisely are the obstacles to the release of Nelson Mandela?" asks a page 20 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 14 December. "From the guarded news of the ANC [African National Congress] leader's meeting with President de Klerk yesterday there is a hint that the release is not likely to come before Christmas, as had been widely predicted this year—and

last year." "With Mr Mandela still a prisoner and his views emerging only through others, the country is left to wonder and speculate what is holding matters up. One view is that he would prefer to emerge not into a nebulous political limbo—as did his eight fellow prisoners released in October—but into a situation where full-scale negotiations are ready to begin." "Disputing the version that it is for him to set his own timing", Mandela's associates "report he would like to be free immediately." "This meeting seems to have been less of a 'courtesy visit' than the previous tea-party with President Botha, and much more of a discussion on the nitty-gritty issues. Something that has also emerged after the initial euphoria over Mr de Klerk is that the gap between the Government and key black leaders remains wide. All South Africans must hope that yesterday's meeting will have done something to narrow it."

#### BUSINESS DAY

**De Klerk-Mandela Meeting Proves Start to Talks on Talks**—"Historians will dispute whether negotiations with the ANC began with Nelson Mandela's first or second visit to Tuynhuys, when he took tea with former President Botha or when he met President de Klerk, but they will be in no doubt that the process began in 1989," observes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 14 December. "The announcement after yesterday's meeting spoke of follow-up in the New Year. There could have been no clearer indication that talks about talks have begun. The fact that the meeting followed Walter Sisulu's meeting with Mandela—presumably a report-back on conditions 'outside'—implies a wider process than last year's tea party with President Botha. Immediate speculation will centre on the preconditions set by the ANC and subsumed in the Harare Declaration of the Organisation of African Unity." "In addition, a normal political discourse requires the unbanning of the ANC and a return of exiles, neither of which can be accomplished without the unbanning of the SA [South African] Communist Party and the return of communist exiles." BUSINESS DAY asks: "Which parties must be permitted to participate in negotiations? The principle is clear that all significant parties should be represented, but it is not so clear how the significance of smaller parties should be determined." "If Mandela and De Klerk can come to a workable understanding on this point, the process will be well under way."

**'Outdated Attitudes' Mark Transportation Strike**—"The SATS [South African Transport Services] strike is in many respects a tragic replay of the equally violent strike two years ago; lives lost, strikers fired, millions gone in burnt and wrecked railway property, and a union demanding recognition by SATS management," recalls a second editorial on the same page. "The violence must be dealt with by the courts, and those responsible severely punished. But SATS management must consider whether much of the confrontation could have been avoided by including SARHWU [South African Railway and Harbor Workers Union] in its wage talks.

SATS will soon be a privately-owned company. Managers will then be answerable to shareholders, who will not put up with losses when outdated attitudes trigger strikes which, conceivably, need never have happened."

### SOWETAN

**Transportation Strike Turns Ugly**—"The dispute between the SATS and the SARHWU has now cost enough lives and pain: It has to be brought to an end," demands a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 14 December. "SATS has obtained several court interdicts against the strikers. But every time the thousands of SATS customers use its transport, they are risking their lives. It has become decidedly ugly." "SATS has painted itself into a corner where it will try to brazen it out, proclaiming that it will not give in to violence and intimidation. Unless sanity prevails things are going to get worse, and this during the season of 'peace on earth and goodwill to all men.'" "We urge SATS to get together with SARHWU to find a solution."

### THE NATAL WITNESS

**SAP 'Albatross' Around De Klerk's Neck**—A page 8 editorial in Pietermaritzburg THE NATAL WITNESS in English on 4 December reads: "Rightly or wrongly, the image of the South African Police can scarcely ever have stood lower than it does at the moment. On the one hand, further allegations of hit squad activities surface by the week. On the other, Mr Justice Didcott of the Natal Supreme Court has granted two temporary interdicts restraining the police from assaulting, threatening or harassing certain Mpumalanga residents. The applicants, said Judge Didcott, had made out a prima facie case in their affidavits for the relief they sought. The corroboratory evidence of those affidavits presents a truly horrifying spectacle of lawless and violent behaviour of certain members of the force. Normally such doings are cloaked by the shroud of the state of emergency. Because the allegations are now part of the court record, they can be exposed to the light of day. All these things are an albatross around the neck of President de Klerk and his reform programme. It is one which must be speedily removed. The appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry with wide terms of reference is not only morally, but also politically, an imperative first step."

### \* Squatters Organize Union: VUCSA

34010064C Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans  
3 Oct 89 p 6

[Article by Ina van der Linde: "It All Began With Orange Farm Slum-Dwellers: 'Experienced' Squatters Found Own Trade Union: VUCSA Could Become Nationwide Mouthpiece"]

[Text] The squatter community of Orange Farm, near Soweto, has formed its own "trade union"! And the spokesman for the approximately 500 slum-dwellers, Mr

Eric Ntshiqela, is himself an experienced squatter who has been in search of a place for him and his family for more than 21 years.

The Vulindlela United Community of South Africa (VUCSA)—Vulindlela means opening up a path—came into being a couple of months ago. But the slum-dwellers, or "shackdwellers," as they prefer to be called, have been talking about the need for an organization that can speak on their behalf for 2 years now.

VUCSA is going to set up branches in squatter areas nationwide, so that representations can be made to the local authorities or government from one source, or to give voice to the residents' objections whenever there is talk of resettlement or the demolition of slum areas.

"Often when the issue of demolition is raised, we know lawyers who can present our side of the matter, but we must also be able to present our side ourselves. We must be able to say what we ourselves have to say and do about the matter."

Mr Ntshiqela, a joiner lacking the necessary qualifications, was born in Transkei and has been in Transvaal since 1968. He first worked for a furniture company, and later for a company that manufactures prefabricated homes.

Later still, he began working for the SA [South Africa] Allied Workers' Union, where his fulltime duty now is organizing the "shackdwellers."

"People experience all of these problems, but they don't do anything to solve them. We must organize ourselves and have a strong voice with which to talk to the authorities.

"One of our goals is to ask the authorities for a piece of land and the right to erect our own houses where we can live and that we can afford. We are asking for permission to erect our houses in our own good time and in our own way."

VUCSA will not resist resettlements, but rather fight for the right for people to choose freely whether to go or stay. They must be notified of where they will be resettled to, and whether there are facilities such as water, schools, clinics, and sanitation.

His name has been on a waiting list for a house since 1975, but he is still on that list today.

"Last year, I was given the opportunity to get one of those high-priced houses. But with my income, I couldn't afford it. I went in for an interview to see if I couldn't manage it after all, but I later gave up all hope—the houses cost between 20,000 and 43,000 rands."

His "career" in squatting began in 1975, when he could no longer afford the sum of 60 rands a month for accommodations in the back yard of a homeowner in Thokoza.

He sent his children to his sister's in Cape Town and set up his first corrugated iron house in a coal yard nearby. Later, he and others who had followed his example received notice that they had to move, because their houses were to be demolished.

"We wanted to move, but didn't know where to. It was then that we simply refused to move. And then the bulldozers came and flattened our houses. The houses

were so badly damaged that we couldn't reuse the material to build somewhere else."

The Red Cross housed them in a tent. Later, it erected another corrugated iron house for him there. And again in Kattlehong, later in Alexandra, and then in Orange Farm...

Today, his greatest dream is to have his children back with him, Mr Ntshiqela says.



## Angola

### Court Sentences Portuguese Citizen for 'Spying'

MB1312051989 Luanda ANGOP in French 1950 GMT  
12 Dec 89

[Text] Luanda, 12 Dec (ANGOP)—The Luanda People's Revolutionary Tribunal, TPR, has sentenced Portuguese citizen Antonio Farinha to 23 years in prison after finding him guilty of spying for the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] criminal gang.

The verdict was announced after 4 days of deliberations following the trial held in Luanda on 8 December.

Antonio Farinha, who was born in Oleiros, Portugal and who resides in Luanda, admitted before the court his being guilty of spying for UNITA.

According to the prosecutor, the accused worked for the U.S. and South African intelligence services by supplying them with military information.

His work also sought the ultimate destruction of Angolan economic targets to stunt the development of the Angolan revolutionary process.

### President Dos Santos Departs Havana 8 Dec

MB0912074789 Luanda Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Dec 89

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party chairman and president of the People's Republic of Angola, left Havana at about 1630 today at the end of his 4-day visit to the Republic of Cuba.

The Angolan head of state was seen off at Jose Marti Airport by Cuban President Fidel Castro, Revolutionary Armed Forces Minister Raul Castro Ruz, and other Cuban officials.

The Angolan head of state attended ceremonies honoring Cuban internationalist troops who lost their lives in Africa over the last 30 years. He also held talks with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also visited the Isle of Youth, where more than 5,000 Angolans are studying, and met with Cuban internationalist soldiers who did their tours of duty in Angola.

## Comoros

### French, South African Officials Meet Denard

AB1412063289 Paris AFP in English 2316 GMT  
13 Dec 89

[Text] Moroni, Dec 13 (AFP)—French mercenary Bob Denard had brief talks here Wednesday [13 December] with French and South African representatives, leading

to "optimism" that he could be persuaded peacefully to leave the Comoro Islands, informed sources said.

Diplomats from the two powers most influential in the Indian Ocean republic met Mr. Denard for 20 minutes. A source close to the talks said they took place in a "more optimistic" climate than Tuesday's [12 December] similar bid to win Mr. Denard out of the islands and indicated that he might go before the end of the week.

The mercenary head of the 650-strong Presidential Guard has effectively been running the Comoros since the death on November 26 of President Ahmed Abdallah. Mr. Denard on Tuesday told reporters that the head of state was shot by one of his own bodyguards.

Earlier Wednesday, French President Francois Mitterrand formally ruled out military intervention in the Comoros at a regular cabinet meeting in Paris, but four French naval vessels sailed to take up station 75 kilometres (45 miles) off Grande Comore, the main island.

It was not clear whether France or South Africa had made a fresh offer to Mr. Denard Wednesday. The mercenary leader, who runs the Presidential Guard with about 30 French and Belgian soldiers of fortune, has said he wants to leave Comoros with "his head held high" after "all that we have done" for the Republic.

Nine hundred Marine commandos are aboard one of the French ships that sailed from Mayotte, the remaining French dependency in the archipelago Wednesday, but the French Government and military have stressed that they are seeking only to protect the 1,600 French residents here.

Sources close to Wednesday's talks said that Mr. Denard appeared to be "anxious" France has reportedly refused to guarantee that he will be spared action under an arrest warrant issued against him in 1981. No details of the warrant were given.

Mr. Denard, who restored Mr. Abdallah to power in the Comoros in 1978 and then settled here, also faces charges in a Paris court for his part in a 1977 coup bid in Benin, during one episode in his career as a soldier of fortune. He has already been sentenced to death in Benin 'in absentia'.

Meanwhile, a meeting due Wednesday to prepare for presidential elections in the Comoros next month was put off until Friday [15 December], sources said. The islands are currently constitutionally being run by Supreme Court President Said Djohar, who has himself said that he is only an administrator. [passage omitted]

### Denard Sets Departure Conditions

AB1412113089 Paris AFP in French 0933 GMT  
14 Dec 89

[Text] Moroni, 14 Dec (AFP)—Bob Denard, the French mercenary whose troops have been controlling Comoros since 26 November despite joint pressure by France and



South Africa, stated today that he has demanded a "handing-over ceremony" with the French Army before leaving the archipelago. At a news conference in Moroni, he stated six conditions for his departure.

The first condition is an "honorable way out" for him consisting of a "handing over" ceremony by the armed forces under his control to about 30 French Army officers. Meanwhile, he stated that "if the security of the islands' population" is not guaranteed, we are duty-bound to refuse to leave."

In this connection, he asked France to send an officer to Moroni to discuss these security problems with him in order to forestall any "blood-bath" in the Comoran population when he leaves the country along with his 30 mercenaries. Bob Denard and his troops control the only Armed Forces in the archipelago, the Presidential Guard, whose number Denard puts at 750 men.

The conditions set by Denard are as follows:

1. An "honorable way out" with "a formal handing-over ceremony;"
2. "All the moral and material investment" in Comoros by the Presidential Guard since its creation in 1978 "should be taken into account," in the form of compensation. Denard, however, refused even to state the figure.
3. "Our soldiers should not be given up to the dangerous population," this implies that an equal number of French Army officers should "relieve" his officers. "They should send 30 French officers for the handing-over ceremony," he said. He said that this would take "1 or 1 and 1/2 days;"
4. His officers should receive "severance pay." He explained that this condition concerned the 30 European officers and a dozen Comoran officers of the Presidential Guard.
5. He and his men should not be prosecuted. In this regard, he said he has received verbal assurances instead of the written assurance that he is demanding. "They promise that this affair will be buried provided we leave, but they (France) do not want to sign an agreement."
6. The press should attend the "handing-over ceremony."

Meanwhile, Bob Denard stated that he was "ready to return to France and to face trial at a French court." The French Justice Department has issued an arrest warrant against him for forming a gang of criminals following the coup attempt in Benin in 1977.

Bob Denard insisted on security in the archipelago and accused France and South Africa of ignoring this aspect. "We are under pressure from all quarters; but the problems here are ignored. They are literally driving us out of the islands without taking into account the local situation which is explosive," Denard said, adding: "We are sitting on a barrel of gunpowder; the slightest spark will blow up the house."

The French mercenary clearly explained that he was referring to the settling of scores that will occur when his men leave. "They cannot throw us out in a few hours

because if they do, there will be a bloodbath. If troop relief is not immediate, there will be looting and murder. I do not want to assume responsibility for that."

The mercenary leader, however, also pointed out that he is not refusing to leave: "I accept to leave, but not in just any old way." In this regard, he explained: "We will send away our wives and children because they may become hostages." Bob Denard is married to a Comoran girl with whom he has had two children.

Dressed in a grey summer suit, with a calm but somewhat resigned look, Denard said he was convinced that he had fallen victim to what he called "apportionment," in other words a modification of the general political situation due notably to Pretoria's new African policy.

### Further on Conditions

LD1412102689 Paris Europe Number One in French  
1000 GMT 14 Dec 89

[Text] In the Comoros Bob Denard is ready to leave the archipelago but he sets six conditions: He is asking particularly that the French Army ensure the transition and he is asking for an honorable way out for him and his mercenaries. According to Bob Denard, everything could be settled in a day or a day and a half. He is asking for the press to be able to attend this transfer of power and for there to be no legal proceedings against him and his men. But the head of the mercenaries gives the warning: Take care, we are sitting on a powderkeg and the slightest spark could blow up the boat.

### Financial Settlement Reached

LD1412134589 Paris Domestic Service in French  
1200 GMT 14 Dec 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] According to the latest news, Pascal Chelet, Bob Denard is allegedly asking for a transfer of power with the participation of the French Army and a departure from the archipelago under honorable conditions, with the adjective honorable remaining to be defined.

[Chelet] Money is not everything: Bob Denard has repeated this several times. However, at the current stage of negotiations for his departure from the Comoros, the matter of money has been settled. Bob Denard has received the check he was asking for and now he wants the honors, I quote, which are due for the physical and moral work which my men and I have accomplished for the Comoros. Bob Denard is today demanding an official handing over of power between his mercenaries and 30 French Army officers. He also wishes the Comoran flag to be presented to him. The Comorans do not really intend to celebrate Bob Denard's departure in this way; it will thus be necessary for the French to play the game, otherwise Bob Denard will not be on the airplane this evening.

### Exile Announces Candidacy for Elections

*AB1312225189 Paris AFP in French 1816 GMT  
13 Dec 89*

[Text] Paris 13, Dec (AFP)—The grandson of the last Comoran Sultan, Prince Said Ali Kemal, who became a member of the opposition in 1980 and has since been living in exile in Paris, has decided to return home next week to run for president in elections scheduled for next January.

"The situation is serious, but because of the failure of 13 years of independence, it is particularly sad for the Comoros," he told AFP today. Mr Ali Kamel who was his country's ambassador to France until 1980, set up an opposition party, Chuma, the "party of fraternity and unity of the Comoros," 5 years ago. This party, he said, has been calling for freedom and democracy "in particular the release of political prisoners."

The prince said he was contacted by the interim Comoran president and asked to return home and participate in preparations for the elections. He added that the departure of Bob Denard and his mercenaries must be settled by France. "It is a French matter among French people," he said, calling for free elections in the archipelago.

"Blood must no longer be shed in the Comoros and Abdallah must be the last victim," he said, recalling the assassination of the Comoran head of state under mysterious circumstances just before the show of strength by the mercenaries.

### Abdallah's Son Affirms Assassination

*EA1312194189 Mayotte Comoros Radio France  
Overseas in French 1600 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] For the first time since the assassination of the Comoros President, Ahmed Abdallah, his son has reacted (and he said that) he was sure that it was an assassination, and not an accident as Bob Denard said last night.

[Begin recording by Abdallah's son] We are convinced that our (?father) was assassinated. That is the most important thing. Now we would like to know who assassinated him. We have ideas about some people, but we cannot yet disclose them because we do not have enough proof. We cannot say whether Bob Denard is the assassin or not, because it is possible that Bob was aware [words indistinct]. [end recording]

## Lesotho

### Government, South Africa Sign Border Agreement

*MB1212132889 Maseru Domestic Service in English  
1130 GMT 12 Dec 89*

[Text] Lesotho and South Africa this morning signed an agreement of a common work area where [words indistinct] crosses the Caledon River into South Africa at [name indistinct] in the Butha Buthe District. The honorable

minister of highlands water and energy affairs, Mr Mohomane Lebotsa, signed on behalf of the Lesotho Government while the South African minister of water affairs, Mr G.J. Kotze, signed on behalf of his government.

In his remarks, Mr Lebotsa said the signing of the agreement signifies an important milestone in the implementation of the 1986 treaty between the two countries. He said the agreement provides the base of [words indistinct] territorial integrity and sovereignty between the two countries would permit the free movement of construction goods, equipment, materials, and personnel without [word indistinct] the construction and meaning of the usual formal border-crossing facilities.

On the other hand, Mr Kotze said, in future the two countries would hold regular meetings in order to solve problems that might arise from day to day.

## Madagascar

### Government Denies Banning French Overflights

*AB1312171089 Paris AFP in French 1550 GMT  
13 Dec 89*

[Text] Antananarivo, 13 Dec (AFP)—Reports published on 11 December in Mayotte that Madagascar has banned French military aircraft from overflying its territory, seem to have originated from "a misunderstanding" between the French and Malagasy authorities, the Air Transport Department pointed out today in Antananarivo.

"The request to overfly Malagasy territory has been granted," the Malagasy Air Transport Department said. "But it seems that there was a misunderstanding because civilian flights have been suspended between Madagascar and Moroni since 10 December," the same source added.

A reliable source stated on 11 December in Mayotte that the French military authorities had received from the Malagasy authorities instructions banning the overflight of its territory beginning 10 December at midnight. The aircraft were engaged in an operation aimed at evacuating when necessary 1,600 French nationals from the Comoros, and then shuttling between the French islands of Reunion and Mayotte.

"Madagascar, yesterday, even granted France permission to use the Majanga Airport," in the northwestern part of the big island, the air transport department added.

## Mozambique

### Authorities Dismiss Reports on Mediators, Talks

*MB1412055089 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 0400 GMT 14 Dec 89*

[Text] Mozambican authorities yesterday dismissed allegations that the mediators in the Mozambique peace

process support negotiations between the government and the armed bandits without preconditions.

AIM reports the armed bandit ringleader made these allegations in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi.

A government source reiterated the validity of the 12 principles outlined by the Mozambican Government, the acceptance of which by the so-called Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] is required before there are direct negotiations between the two sides.

Presidents Robert Mugabe, of Zimbabwe, and Moi, of Kenya, met in Nairobi last week and held talks as part of their role as mediators in the Mozambique peace process.

### Joint South Africa Economic Commission Meets

*MB1112184489 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 11 Dec 89*

[Text] A South African delegation which arrived in Maputo this morning to attend the third Mozambican-South African meeting on economic affairs has already returned to its country.

Leon Wessels, South African deputy foreign minister, who led the South African delegation, told Mozambican radio that the meeting dealt with issues such as infrastructures, natural resources, labor, and health.

He also said that the meeting reviewed the progress achieved in various subcommissions established at the previous meeting, which took place in Cape Town, South Africa last February.

The next meeting of the Mozambican-South African commission for economic affairs will be held in South Africa.

### Talks Conclude

*MB1212132189 Johannesburg International Service  
in English 1100 GMT 12 Dec 89*

[Text] At the third meeting of the joint commission for economic affairs of South Africa and Mozambique held in Maputo, satisfaction has been expressed with the progress made by the subcommittees which have met at various times in the past year. South Africa and Mozambique said the meeting addressed issues which were referred to it by the subcommittees.

The meeting was held under the cochairmanship of the Mozambican labor minister, Mr Aguiar Mazula, and the South African deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Leon Wessels.

The fourth meeting of the commission will be held in South Africa next year on a date still to be mutually determined.

### Foreign Minister Addresses UN in New York 11 Dec

*MB1312193889 Maputo Domestic Service  
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Excerpt] AIM [Mozambique Information Agency] reports that Foreign Minister Pascoal Manuel Mocumbi addressed the UN General Assembly in New York on 11 December and said that Mozambique wishes to see the Pretoria regime fulfill its promise to cease support for the armed bandits from South African territory.

Mozambican Foreign Minister Mocumbi briefed the UN General Assembly on the history of the destabilization against Mozambique. [passage omitted]

### Namibia

#### South Africa Opens Interests Office in Windhoek

*MB1312092789 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0926 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Text] Windhoek Dec 13 SAPA—South Africa officially opened its interests office in Namibia with a small ceremony in Windhoek on Wednesday [13 December].

The building, formerly the Berg Hotel in Klein Windhoek, is being renovated and from December 18 will provide a full range of consular services normally provided by South African missions abroad, including the issuing of passports and visas. The expensive renovations reflected South Africa's confidence in the future of Namibia, the deputy head of the mission, Mr John Sunde said.

"South Africa demonstrates by this we want to be good neighbours, and we hope it will be possible to retain normal and friendly relations with the neighbouring state," he added.

### Zambia

#### Kaunda Departs New York, Arrives in Lusaka 13 Dec

*MB1312191389 Lusaka Domestic Service in English  
1800 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Text] President Kaunda was early this morning accorded a 19-gun send-off at (J.F. Kennedy Airport in New York) [words indistinct] performance for Africa.

(?Welcoming) President Kaunda when he stopped over for an hour on his way from New York, the Liberian leader, General Samuel Doe, said African leaders should express appreciation for what President Kaunda has done and and is still doing for Africa.

He expressed the hope that President Kaunda's address at the United Nations would go a long way in achieving the desired result for dismantling the apartheid regime.



In reply, President Kaunda expressed his admiration for Comrade Doe's dynamic leadership which, he said, had brought confidence, dignity, and hope to Liberia.

President Kaunda arrived back home this afternoon from New York, where he had gone to attend a special United Nations session on apartheid in South Africa.

Comrade Kaunda was met at the airport by party Secretary General Comrade Grey Zulu, Secretary of State for Defense and Security Alex Shapi, and other senior party and government officials.

While in New York, President Kaunda met with United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and several other political figures.

**Benin****Anti-Government Unrest, Government Response Noted****3,000 Clash With Police**

*AB1312170689 London BBC World Service in English  
1615 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[From the "Closing Headlines"]

[Text] About 3,000 people are believed to have confronted riot police in the city of Porto-Novo in Benin in another anti-government demonstration. Police fired tear gas at a stone-throwing crowd but no one was injured.

**Post Office Workers Strike**

*AB1312185389 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Excerpts] It has been another day of protest in Benin following demonstrations last Friday and Monday [8 and 11 December]. People are unhappy about the government of President Mathieu Kerekou despite a recent government decision to abandon Marxism-Leninism. And the country faces huge economic problems like salary arrears for thousands of teachers and civil servants in the public sector. The authorities have issued stern warnings but demonstrators have been running the gauntlet of security forces again as Ismael Soumanou reports in this telex from Cotonou:

[Begin studio announcer recording] [Passage omitted] There has been no activity in the city of Cotonou, but the workers of the post office have begun a 48-hour strike which has shut down some of the country's telephone exchanges. The strike has been called in sympathy with the demonstrations of the last few days. There are reports that a demonstration is planned for tomorrow in Cotonou.

Benin's President Mathieu Kerekou on Monday banned unauthorized public meetings that occur after daylight hours and has threatened demonstrators with the use of force to maintain public order. [end recording]

**Cabinet Barred From Foreign Travel**

*AB1312210989 Cotonou Domestic Service in French  
1930 GMT 13 Dec 89*

[Excerpts] Here is a report on the weekly cabinet meeting: The street demonstrations and the resulting consequences occupied the attention of the Standing Committee of the National Executive Council. The Council has banned until further notice, all gatherings and all unauthorized demonstrations on public roads and in public places throughout the country. Here is the report on the meeting presented by MNR Irene Zinsou, acting in the interim as minister of information and communication.

[Begin Zinsou recording] During the session, the Standing Committee of the National Executive Council approved a draft decree regulating operations of maintenance and restoration of public law and order. Instructions were given to the minister delegate to the president of the Republic in charge of the interior, public security, and territorial administration; to the minister of defense and of the People's Armed Forces; and to the chairman of the State Committees for the Administration of the Provinces to ensure a wide diffusion of this decree among the popular masses, among all the components of the People's Armed Forces, and the local organs of the state authority.

The Standing Committee of the National Executive Council also approved a draft decree for forwarding to the Revolutionary National Assembly to authorize the ratification of the financing contract signed on 27 October 1989 in Luxembourg between the People's Republic of Benin and the European Investment Bank for the partial financing of the telecommunications project. [passage omitted]

During the same session, the minister delegate to the president of the Republic in charge of the interior, public security, and territorial administration, reported to the Standing Committee of the National Executive Council on the agitation and acts of vandalism and terrorism that were perpetrated at Abomey on Friday 8 December, and in Cotonou on Monday 11 December by unemployed youths, urchins, and delinquents at the instigation of anarcho-leftist elements claiming to belong to the Communist Party of Dahomey. He also reported on the measures he took. While approving that report, the Standing Committee gave firm instructions to the minister delegate to the president of the Republic in charge of the interior, public security, and territorial administration; to the minister of defense and the People's Armed Forces; and to the chairmen of the State Committee of Administration of the Provinces to ban, until further notice, any unauthorized gatherings and demonstrations in the streets and in public places throughout the national territory. consequently, any militant caught violating this order will be subject to severe sanctions.

Last, the Standing Committee of the National Executive Council decided that in connection with the preparation of the national conference announced by the joint session of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin, the Standing Committee of the Revolutionary National Assembly, and the National Executive Council held in Cotonou on 6 and 7 December 1989, no member of the council will be authorized, until further notice, to go on any mission abroad, whether in an official or private capacity, except in a case of absolute necessity, which will be determined by the head of state.

Ready for the revolution: The struggle continues! [end recording]

### **Opposition Cancels Planned Meeting**

*AB1412133589 Paris AFP in French 1229 GMT  
14 Dec 89*

[Text] Cotonou, 14 Dec (AFP)—The anti-government demonstrations scheduled to take place here today have been canceled. This was announced in a leaflet circulating here today.

The "People's Convention" and the "National Salvation Committee" have announced that they are postponing until 18 December the holding of a "general congress of the action committees and struggle committees," which were scheduled to meet today. The two committees have for several months been leading the social unrest in the Civil Service. They also postponed the demonstration planned for this afternoon in Cotonou. The two organizations are supervised by militants of the Communist Party of Dahomey (Benin's former name), a clandestine organization which wants President Kerekou's departure.

At dawn today, many helmeted and armed policemen and soldiers were stationed at the city's major junctions. Meanwhile, the government last night recalled its ban on any demonstrations. The city was calm today at 1100 GMT.

## **Senegal**

### **Mauritanian Airplanes Denied Landing Rights**

*AB1412071089 Paris AFP in English 2323 GMT  
13 Dec 89*

[Text] Dakar, Dec 13 (AFP)—Senegal has banned all Mauritanian planes from landing at the international airport here, an aviation source said Wednesday [13 December].

An earlier statement said only airliners were affected, but the new ban applies to flights by businessmen and aircraft from the Nouakchott Air Club.

Air Mauritania and Air Senegal stopped landing in each other's capitals after inter-communal violence last April that left at least 200 dead in both countries.

A civil aviation spokesman refused Wednesday to comment on the ban, saying that it was a "political" decision not to be discussed with the press, and the information service in the ministry responsible said it had no details.

Mauritanian Interior Minister Djibril Ould Abdellahi recently told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that there was no question of banning private flights from Dakar to Nouakchott, but observers now fear that the Mauritians will reciprocate.

Businessmen and diplomats with interests in both capitals will have to pass through other countries, such as Mali or Gambia.

Air Afrique, the multinational in which both Senegal and Mauritania have a stake, also stopped direct flights after Nouakchott said that a Mauritanian chief customs official was molested at Dakar Airport by Senegalese customs men who broke with tradition and climbed aboard his plane.

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) is trying to settle the dispute between the West African neighbours, which started in April when border clashes flared up into widespread inter-communal violence between Moors and black Africans.



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